

## Obituary

Mrs. Clara Ann Gardner Pelham was born on November 8, 1949, in Hopewell, Virginia. She was the daughter of the late Louis Gardner, Sr. and Sallie Mae Miles Gardner. She departed this life on Tuesday, January 23, 2023.

After graduating from Cocoa High School, Clara started her career at Southern Bell as a Telephone Operator. She continued that career for 25 years at AT&T, where she was given several accolades for being a stellar supervisor. She also worked as a Customer Care Representative at Time Warner Cable for six years before retiring. After retiring, she devoted her time doing volunteer work for her church, Zion Cannan Baptist Church.

In addition to her parents, Clara was preceded in death by her husband, James Pelham, Sr.; her son, James Pelham, Jr.; brothers, Thomas Spratley, Jr., Louis Gardner, Jr., and Duke Gardner; sister, Rosa Gardner Pate; and companion, George Graham.

Mrs. Clara Ann Gardner Pelham is survived by her daughter, Lillie Bell Frances Graham, of Columbia, South Carolina; sisters, Ardell (Gonzales) Graves and Ava (Richard) Young, of Hopewell, Virginia; a host of nieces, nephews, and friends, all of whom will miss her dearly.

## Memories



## Order of Service

*Reverend Marie Burkins, Presiding*

- Prelude
- Processional
- Viewing.....Funeral Directors
- Opening Hymn.....“Near The Cross”
- Old Testament.....Reverend Marie Burkins
- New Testament.....Deacon Charles Gipson
- Prayer.....Minister Hilliard Reeves
- Selection.....ZCBC Praise Team
- Remarks.....Mrs. Ardell Graves  
Mrs. Ava Young  
Mrs. Vivian Mitchell  
Mrs. Jessie Chandler
- Selection.....ZCBC Praise Team
- Words of Comfort.....Reverend Eugene T. Miller
- Recessional
- Postlude



### *Committal, Benediction and Interment*

**Greenlawn Memorial Park  
845 Leesburg Road  
Columbia, South Carolina**



## *When Tomorrow Starts Without Me*

*When tomorrow starts without me, and I'm not here to see,  
If the sun should rise and find your eyes, filled with tears for  
me.*

*I wish so much you wouldn't cry the way you did today,  
while thinking of the many things we didn't get to say.*

*I know how much you love me, as much as I love you,  
and each time you think of me, I know you'll miss me too.*

*When tomorrow starts without me, please try to understand  
That an angel came and called my name and took me by the  
hand*

*The angel said my place was ready in heaven far above  
And that I'd have to leave behind all those I dearly love.*

*But when I walked through Heaven's gate, I felt so much at  
home*

*When God looked down and smiled at me from His great  
golden throne.*

*He said, "This is eternity and all I've promised you."  
Today my life on earth is past, but here it starts anew*

*I promise no tomorrow but today will always last  
And since each day's the same day, there's no longing for  
the past.*

*So when tomorrow starts without me, don't think we're far  
apart,  
For every time, you think of me, I'm right there in your  
heart.*

## *Pallbearers*

**Family and Friends**

## *Floral Bearers*

**Family and Friends**

## *Acknowledgement*

We, the family of Clara Ann Gardner Pelham, would like to thank each of you for the many acts of kindness expressed to us, during the passing of our loved one. May God bless each of you with His mercy.

## **Services Entrusted To:**

<b>Taylor Street Chapel</b> 1831 Taylor Street Columbia, SC 29201 (803)771-7799 I. S. Leevy Johnson -Owner & Director-	<b>Leevy's</b> FUNERAL HOME Chris Leevy Johnson -President & Managing Director-	<b>Lower Richland Chapel</b> 9120 Garners Ferry Road Hopkins, SC 29061 (803) 776-6922 Leverette A. Williams, II -General Manager-
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## *Homegoing Service Celebrating the Life of*

**MRS. CLARA ANN GARDNER PELHAM**



**TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2023  
11:00 A.M.**

**ZION CANNAN BAPTIST CHURCH  
7820 FARROW ROAD  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**REVEREND EUGENE T. MILLER  
-OFFICIATING-**